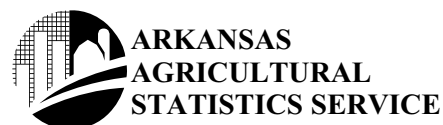


ARKANSAS BROILER HATCHERY



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NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS SERVICE
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

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ARKANSAS CHICK PLACEMENTS UP 8 PERCENT FROM LAST YEAR

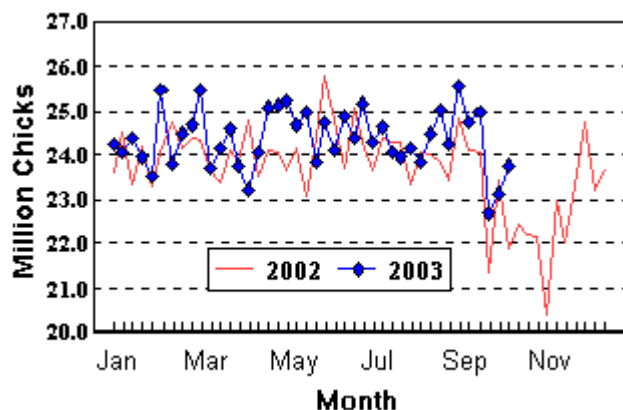
Broiler-type **chicks placed** for meat production in Arkansas was 23.7 million during the week ending October 18, 2003. Placements were up 8 percent from the comparable week in 2002, and up 3 percent from the previous week, and included 2.2 million chicks shipped in from other states. Cumulative placements from December 29, 2002 through October 18, 2003 were 1.02 billion, up 2 percent from the same period a year earlier.

The broiler-type **chicks hatched** for the week was 24.8 million, up 7 percent from the corresponding week a year earlier, but down 2 percent from the revised previous week. Of the total hatch, 2.8 million chicks were shipped out of the state. Average hatchability for chicks hatched was 82.6 percent.

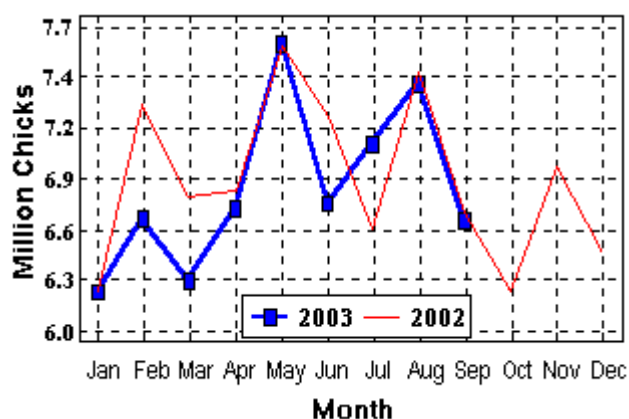
Arkansas hatcheries **set** 28.9 million broiler-type eggs during the week ending October 18, 2003, up 6 percent from the same period last year, but down 2 percent from the previous week.

Leading breeders in the **UNITED STATES** placed 6.7 million **broiler-type pullet chicks** for future domestic hatchery supply flocks during September 2003, down slightly from September 2002.

**ARKANSAS BROILER CHICK PLACEMENTS
BY WEEK, 2002 - 2003**



**U.S. BROILER-TYPE PULLET CHICKS PLACED
FOR DOMESTIC HATCHERY SUPPLY FLOCKS**



NET PLACEMENTS IN ARKANSAS

Week Ending	Year		% Change
	2002	2003	
	1,000		
Sep. 13	24,831	25,581	103
Sep. 20	24,113	24,721	103
Sep. 27	24,044	24,992	104
Oct. 4	21,347	22,702	106
Oct. 11	24,404	23,157	99
Oct. 18	21,930	23,749	108

U.S. PULLET CHICKS PLACED

Month	Year		% Change
	2002	2003	
	1,000		
Apr.	6,814	6,720	99
May	7,597	7,612	100
Jun.	7,206	6,748	94
Jul.	6,602	7,071	107
Aug.	7,449	7,401	99
Sep.	6,676	6,654	100

BROILER EGGS SET AND CHICKS PLACED IN 19 MAJOR STATES BY WEEKS, 2003

STATE	EGGS SET (in Thousands)					CHICKS PLACED (in Thousands)						
	Week Ending				1/ %	Week Ending						1/ %
	27-Sep	04-Oct	11-Oct	18-Oct		13-Sep	20-Sep	27-Sep	04-Oct	11-Oct	18-Oct	
Alabama	27,391	28,070	28,048	28,283	108	21,482	21,970	21,676	20,614	20,421	20,653	97
ARKANSAS	30,013	28,806	29,386	28,862	106	25,581	24,721	24,992	22,702	23,157	23,749	108
Delaware	3,479	3,670	3,529	3,531	107	5,784	4,644	4,831	4,439	4,553	4,189	93
Florida	1,369	1,369	1,359	1,365	59	1,894	1,586	1,651	1,605 *	1,609	1,586	78
Georgia	30,187 *	30,671	32,016	29,461	104	25,959	25,369	24,677	24,145 *	24,366 *	24,226	105
Kentucky	6,576 *	6,079	6,626	5,369	97	5,885	5,475	5,273	4,933	5,553 *	5,518	95
Maryland	8,411	7,842	8,502	8,005	86	5,293	6,614	5,378	5,563	5,232	6,308	110
Mississippi	17,357	17,139	17,910	16,983	102	16,168	15,577	15,904	15,221	14,673	14,715	100
N. Carolina	17,546 *	15,901	15,940	16,677	102	13,977	13,226	13,000	13,156	12,575	13,790	100
Oklahoma	5,651	6,056	5,864	6,063	97	4,406	4,273	4,574	5,390	5,769	4,196	117
Pennsylvania	3,491	3,679 *	3,416	3,446	105	2,702	2,706	2,691	2,635 *	2,548	2,519	102
S. Carolina	4,417	4,578	4,080	3,907	84	4,204	4,607	3,827	4,265	4,188	3,685	103
Texas	14,357	14,279	14,217	12,863	99	12,080	12,165	12,193	11,670	10,809	11,954	100
Virginia	6,391	5,713	6,360	6,378	112	5,450	4,979	5,231	4,696	4,696	5,069	94
CA, LA, MO, IN, WV	19,218 *	19,167	19,098 *	19,005	108	18,154	17,252	17,225	18,166	17,750 *	18,027	112
Total 2003	195,854 *	193,019 *	196,351 *	190,198		169,019	165,164	163,123	159,200 *	157,899 *	160,184	
Total 2002	191,851	193,083	192,080	185,654		166,340	165,465	165,235	155,770	154,082	155,782	
%Prev. Year	102	100	102	102		102	100	99	102	102	103	
Approximate Marketing Date 2003.....						01-Nov	08-Nov	15-Nov	22-Nov	29-Nov	06-Dec	

* Revised. 1/ Current week as percent of the same week last year.

EGGS SET IN 19 SELECTED STATES UP 2 PERCENT

Commercial hatcheries in the 19-state weekly program set 190 million eggs during the week ending October 18, 2003. This was up 2 percent from the eggs set the corresponding week a year earlier. Average hatchability for chicks hatched during the week was 83 percent. Average hatchability is calculated by dividing chicks hatched during the week by eggs set three weeks earlier.

BROILER CHICKS PLACED UP 3 PERCENT

Broiler growers in the 19-state weekly program placed 160 million chicks for meat production during the week ending October 18, 2003. Placements were up 3 percent from the comparable week a year earlier. Cumulative placements from December 29, 2002 through October 18, 2003 were 7.03 billion, down 1 percent from the same period a year earlier.